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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/530,319

11/05/2005

Guenter Hoenig

10191/3753

3633

26646

7590

04/09/2008

KENYON & KENYON LLP
ONE BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10004

EXAMINER

PRICE, CARL D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3749

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/09/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/530,319	Applicant(s) HOENIG ET AL.	
	Examiner CARL D. PRICE	Art Unit 3749	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04/05/2005 (preliminary amendment).
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/04/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the at least one nozzle including one of a swirl nozzle and a multi-orifice nozzle (claim 22) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). **No new matter should be entered.**

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

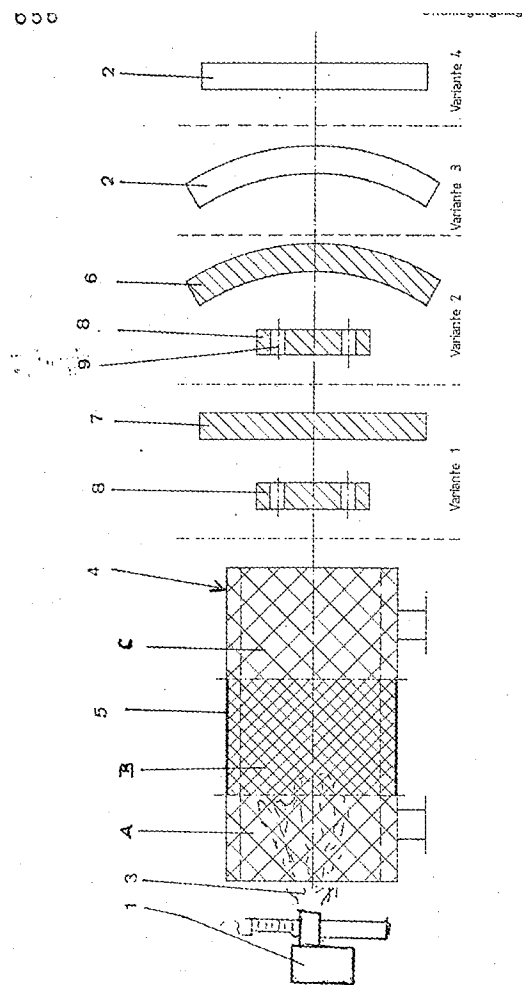
Claims 11-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by

DE003732656A1.

DE003732656A1 shows and discloses a burner gaseous fossil fuels, with a baffle located ahead of the burner that causes vortices in the combustion gases, in which a flame guiding tube (4) surrounding the burner flame (3), and made of an at least **partially open pored foamed ceramic material**, is located between the burner (1) and the baffle (2). The flame guiding tube

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(4) has three zones (A, B, C) of differing porosity, with the two outer zones (A, C) having essentially the same porosity, and the central zone (B) have a lesser porosity and being provided with a closed outer skin. A disc of open-pored foamed ceramic material may be provided in the passage of the **flame guiding tube (4)**. Between the flame guiding tube (4) and the baffle (6, 7), another plate, of smaller extent than the baffle (6, 7), is located as a scattering plate (8); it may be provided with penetrations (9) for passage of the combustion gas, or be made of **foamed ceramic**. The parts may be made of a **catalytic material** (in the sense of effecting the conversion of noxious substances in the flue gas), or **coated with a material with such a catalytic effect**.



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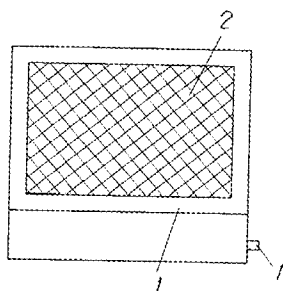
JP 59-131816 teaches, from applicant's same catalytic combustion field of endeavor field of endeavor, operating a foamed ceramic catalytic burner as an afterburner for consuming fuel produced in a hydrocarbon gas reformer.

JP 59-131816 discloses:

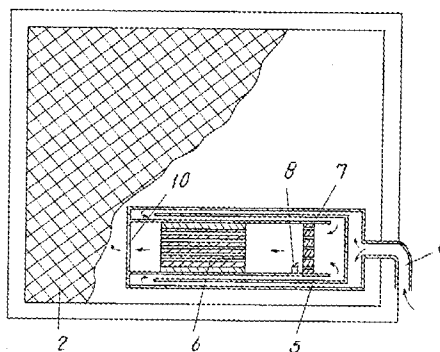
ABSTRACT:

CONSTITUTION: A reforming unit 5 for reforming hydrocarbon gas and an oxidation catalyst mat 4 for burning reformed gas are provided and the reforming unit 5 is held between the oxidation catalyst mat 4 and its rear surface panel 3. As reforming catalyst 6, there is applied a catalyst in which nickel, cobalt, iron, alkaline and alkaline earth, platinum etc. are held on an integrally formed body composed of grid-shaped or honeycomb-shaped multi-layered thin wall section made of non-organic heat resistant material such as alumina, silica and cordierite and the like. As the oxidation catalyst mat 4, there are provided a wool-shaped non-organic heat resistant material such as alumina, silica etc. or material having simple metal or composite metals of iron, chromium, cobalt, manganese, platinum etc. held in foamed metal, foamed ceramic etc.

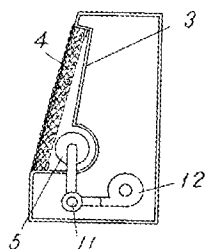
第 1 図



第 3 図



第 2 図



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In regard to claims 11-22, for the purpose of providing a suitable known mean for combustion of fuel produced in a hydrocarbon gas reformer, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art to supply **DE003732656A1** with fuel produced in a hydrocarbon gas reformer and to utilize platinum a catalytic layer material, in view of the teaching of **JP 59-131816**.

In regard to claim 13, since the actual composition and pore structure a catalytic material, as well as the location and type of any one of an heater ignitor and nozzles would necessarily depend on numerous inter-related design parameters for a given burner apparatus, such as the overall size and shape of the apparatus, the actual composition of fuel burned, desired operating temperatures, etc. to operate a foamed ceramic combustor of the type represented by **DE003732656A1** and/or **JP 59-131816** to have a ceramic foam including silicon carbide, open pores via reticulation, include and electric heater, electric glow filament and a glow plug, ignitor location, nozzles, etc., can be viewed as nothing more than mere matters of choice in design absent e showing of any new or unexpected results produced therefrom over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

See the attached USPTO for, 892 for prior art made of record and not relied upon which is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

USPTO CUSTOMER CONTACT INFORMATION

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CARL D. PRICE whose telephone number is (571) 272-4880. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday between 9:0am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven B. McAllister can be reached on (571) 272-6785. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/CARL D. PRICE/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3749